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Spectator Sport

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Koehler: Spectator Sport
Spectator Sport

Jeff Koehler

In surreal blue glow
of Wyoming winter evening, 1969,
a supersurreal blues
plays across cathode ray-set—
basso profundo Cronkite
and the dancing generals
telling the word to nine-year-old me.
Flickering napalm horrors,
interpretive dance of juggernauts,
crushing weight of Glory
counted out in bodies
87 lost on our team
324 on theirs—whoever they
are—dispossessed in their own land.
My land is TV-land, where
2+2=5. Cheering our side,
I ate the bait with TV dinner.
In the wings,
Goebbels laughing his ass off.